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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Tomoaki Abe et al

TITLE: OIL RING

THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This is a preliminary amendment accompanying a new patent application being filed simultaneously herewith.

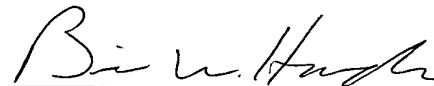
**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel original Claims 1-6.

Please add new Claims 7-16.March 14, 2005

Date

Respectfully submitted,

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